

## **House of Representatives**

File No. 874

## General Assembly

January Session, 2013

(Reprint of File No. 362)

Substitute House Bill No. 6362 As Amended by House Amendment Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner May 30, 2013

# AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE REGULATIONS OF CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2013) (a) The Secretary of the State
- 2 shall establish and maintain the eRegulations System, which shall
- 3 consist of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies adopted by all
- 4 state agencies subsequent to October 27, 1970. The Commission on
- 5 Official Legal Publications shall, within available appropriations,
- 6 provide any assistance requested by the Secretary of the State in the
- 7 creation of the eRegulations System. On and after October 1, 2014, the
- 8 eRegulations System shall also include the official electronic
- 9 regulation-making record described in section 4-168b of the general
- statutes, as amended by this act. On and after the date the Secretary of
- 11 the State certifies the eRegulations System as sufficient pursuant to this
- 12 section, the regulations of Connecticut state agencies maintained by
- 13 the Secretary on said system shall be the official version of the
- 14 regulations of Connecticut state agencies for all purposes, including all
- 15 legal and administrative proceedings. The eRegulations System shall

16 be easily accessible to and searchable by the public. The Secretary of 17 the State may specify the format in which state agencies shall submit 18 the final approved version of such regulations and all other documents 19 required pursuant to this section and sections 4-167, 4-168, 4-170 and 4-20 172 of the general statutes, as amended by public act 12-92 and this act, 21 and all state agencies shall follow the instructions of the Secretary of the State with respect to agency submissions to the Secretary. On and 22 23 after July 1, 2013, the Secretary of the State shall post on the 24 eRegulations System all effective regulations of Connecticut state 25 agencies as provided by the Commission on Official Legal 26 Publications. The Secretary of the State shall designate such posting as 27 an unofficial version of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies 28 until such time as the Secretary certifies in writing that the 29 eRegulations System is technologically sufficient to serve as the official 30 version of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies. Such 31 certification shall be made on or before October 1, 2014, and shall be 32 published on the Secretary's Internet web site and in the Connecticut 33 Law Journal. Until such time as the Secretary makes such certification: 34 (1) The Secretary, upon receipt of the certified electronic copy of an 35 approved regulation in accordance with section 4-172 of the general 36 statutes, as amended by this act, shall forward an electronic copy of 37 such regulation to the Commission on Official Legal Publications for 38 publication in accordance with this section, (2) the Commission on 39 Official Legal Publications shall continue to publish the regulations of 40 Connecticut state agencies, and (3) such published version shall be the 41 official version of said regulations.

- (b) Each agency and quasi-public agency with regulatory authority shall post a conspicuous web site link to the eRegulations System on the agency's or quasi-public agency's Internet web site and shall, if practicable, link to the specific provisions of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies that concern the agency's or quasi-public agency's particular programs.
- (c) Not later than January 1, 2014, the Secretary of the State shall develop and implement a plan to maintain a paper copy at the office of

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the Secretary of the State of all of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies posted on the eRegulations System.

Sec. 2. Section 4-167 of the general statutes, as amended by section 1 of public act 12-92, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date*):

- (a) In addition to other regulation-making requirements imposed by law, each agency shall: (1) Adopt as a regulation a description of its organization, stating the general course and method of its operations and the methods whereby the public may obtain information or make submissions or requests; (2) adopt as a regulation rules of practice setting forth the nature and requirements of all formal and informal procedures available provided such rules shall be in conformance with the provisions of this chapter; and (3) make available for public inspection, upon request, [paper] copies of all regulations and all other written statements of policy or interpretations formulated, adopted or used by the agency in the discharge of its functions, and all forms and instructions used by the agency.
- (b) No agency regulation is enforceable against any person or party, nor may it be invoked by the agency for any purpose, until (1) it has been made available for public inspection as provided in this section, and (2) the regulation or a notice of the adoption of the regulation has been published in the Connecticut Law Journal if noticed prior to July 1, 2013, or posted [online by the Secretary of the State] on the eRegulations System pursuant to section [4-173] 4-172, as amended by this act, and section 1 of this act, if noticed on or after July 1, 2013. This provision is not applicable in favor of any person or party who has actual notice or knowledge thereof. The burden of proving the notice or knowledge is on the agency.
- Sec. 3. Section 4-168 of the general statutes, as amended by section 2 of public act 12-92, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013, and applicable to regulations noticed on and*

82 after said date):

83 (a) Except as provided in subsections (f) and (g) of this section, an 84 agency, not less than thirty days prior to adopting a proposed 85 regulation, shall (1) give notice by [having the Secretary of the State 86 post posting a notice of its intended action [online] on the 87 eRegulations System. The notice shall include (A) either a statement of 88 the terms or of the substance of the proposed regulation or a 89 description sufficiently detailed so as to apprise persons likely to be 90 affected of the issues and subjects involved in the proposed regulation, 91 (B) a statement of the purposes for which the regulation is proposed, 92 (C) a reference to the statutory authority for the proposed regulation, 93 (D) when, where and how interested persons may obtain a copy of the 94 small business impact and regulatory flexibility analyses required 95 pursuant to section 4-168a, and (E) when, where and how interested 96 persons may present their views on the proposed regulation; (2) give notice electronically to each joint standing committee of the General 97 98 Assembly having cognizance of the subject matter of the proposed 99 regulation; (3) give notice electronically or provide a paper copy to all 100 persons who have made requests to the agency for advance notice of 101 its regulation-making proceedings. The agency may charge a 102 reasonable fee for such notice if not given electronically based on the 103 estimated cost of providing the service; (4) provide a paper copy or 104 electronic version of the proposed regulation to persons requesting it. 105 The agency may charge a reasonable fee for paper copies in accordance 106 with the provisions of section 1-212; and (5) prepare a fiscal note, 107 including an estimate of the cost or of the revenue impact (A) on the 108 state or any municipality of the state, and (B) on small businesses in 109 the state, including an estimate of the number of small businesses 110 subject to the proposed regulation and the projected costs, including 111 but not limited to, reporting, recordkeeping and administrative, 112 associated with compliance with the proposed regulation and, if 113 applicable, the regulatory flexibility analysis prepared under section 4-114 168a. The governing body of any municipality, if requested, shall 115 provide the agency, within twenty working days, with any

information that may be necessary for analysis in preparation of such fiscal note. Except as provided in subsections (f) and (g) of this section, any such agency shall also: Afford all interested persons reasonable opportunity to submit data, views or arguments, orally at a hearing if granted under this subsection or in writing, and to inspect and copy or view online and print the fiscal note prepared pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection; grant an opportunity to present oral argument if requested by fifteen persons, by a governmental subdivision or agency or by an association having not less than fifteen members, if notice of the request is received by the agency not later than fourteen days after the date of posting of the notice by the [Secretary of the State] agency on the eRegulations System; and consider fully all written and oral submissions respecting the proposed regulation and revise the fiscal note prepared in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (5) of this subsection to indicate any changes made in the proposed regulation. [Not later than five calendar days after such agency submits such notice and documents to the Secretary of the State, the Secretary] On and after October 1, 2014, each agency shall post [the notice and] all [accompanying] documents prepared by the agency pursuant to this subsection [online and] on the eRegulations System. Each agency shall electronically notify [all persons who have requested and, if requested, provide a paper copy of such notice to any person who requests to be notified of any regulation-making proceedings. [Each agency shall also post the notice and all accompanying documents on its Internet web site.] No regulation shall be found invalid due to the failure of an agency to give notice to each committee of cognizance pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, provided one such committee has been so notified.

(b) If an agency is required by a public act to adopt regulations, the agency, not later than five months after the effective date of the public act or by the time specified in the public act, shall post [online on its Internet web site] on the eRegulations System notice of its intent to adopt regulations. [and submit to the office of the Secretary of the State for posting online pursuant to subsection (a) of this section such

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notice.] If the agency fails to post the notice within such five-month period or by the time specified in the public act, the agency shall submit an electronic statement of its reasons for failure to do so to the Governor, the joint standing committee having cognizance of the subject matter of the regulations and the standing legislative regulation review committee and on and after October 1, 2014, post such statement on the eRegulations System. The agency shall submit the required regulations to the standing legislative regulation review committee, as provided in subsection (b) of section 4-170, as amended by this act, not later than one hundred eighty days after posting the notice of its intent to adopt regulations, or electronically submit a statement of its reasons for failure to do so to the committee.

- (c) An agency may begin the regulation-making process under this chapter before the effective date of the public act requiring or permitting the agency to adopt regulations, but no regulation may take effect before the effective date of such act.
- (d) Upon reaching a decision on whether to proceed with the proposed regulation or to alter its text from that initially proposed, the agency, at least twenty days before submitting the proposed regulation to the standing legislative regulation review committee, shall (1) post on the Jagency's Internet web site, (2) submit to the office of the Secretary of the State for posting online, and (3) either electronically mail or mail a paper copy] eRegulations System, and (2) send to all persons who have made submissions pursuant to subsection (a) of this section or who have made statements or oral arguments concerning the proposed regulation and who have requested notification, notice that it has decided to take action on the proposed regulation [and that it has posted on the agency's Internet web site] and has made available for copying and inspection pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200: (A) The final wording of the proposed regulation; (B) a statement of the principal reasons in support of its intended action; and (C) a statement of the principal considerations in opposition to its intended action as urged in written or oral comments on the proposed regulation and its reasons for rejecting such

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(e) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, no regulation may be adopted, amended or repealed by any agency until it is (1) approved by the Attorney General as to legal sufficiency, as provided in section 4-169, as amended by this act, (2) approved by the standing 189 legislative regulation review committee, as provided in section 4-170, 190 as amended by this act, and (3) posted [online] on the eRegulations <u>System</u> by the office of the Secretary of the State, as provided in section 192 4-172, as amended by this act, and section 1 of this act.

- (f) (1) An agency may proceed to adopt an emergency regulation in accordance with this subsection without prior notice or hearing or upon any abbreviated notice and hearing that it finds practicable if (A) the agency finds that adoption of a regulation upon fewer than thirty days' notice is required (i) due to an imminent peril to the public health, safety or welfare or (ii) by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection in order to comply with the provisions of interstate fishery management plans adopted by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission or to meet unforeseen circumstances or emergencies affecting marine resources, (B) the agency states in writing its reasons for that finding, and (C) the Governor approves such finding in writing.
- 205 (2) The original of such emergency regulation and an electronic 206 copy shall be submitted to the standing legislative regulation review 207 committee in the form prescribed in subsection (b) of section 4-170, as 208 amended by this act, together with a statement of the terms or 209 substance of the intended action, the purpose of the action and a 210 reference to the statutory authority under which the action is 211 proposed, not later than ten days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and 212 holidays, prior to the proposed effective date of such regulation. The 213 committee may approve or disapprove the regulation, in whole or in 214 part, within such ten-day period at a regular meeting, if one is 215 scheduled, or may upon the call of either chairman or any five or more 216 members hold a special meeting for the purpose of approving or

disapproving the regulation, in whole or in part. Failure of the committee to act on such regulation within such ten-day period shall be deemed an approval. If the committee disapproves such regulation, in whole or in part, it shall notify the agency of the reasons for its action. An approved regulation, posted [online] on the eRegulations System by the office of the Secretary of the State, may be effective for a period of not longer than one hundred twenty days renewable once for a period of not exceeding sixty days, provided notification of such sixty-day renewal is posted [online] on the eRegulations System by the office of the Secretary of the State and an electronic copy of such notice is sent to the committee, but the adoption of an identical regulation in accordance with the provisions of subsections (a), (b) and (d) of this section is not precluded. The sixty-day renewal period may be extended an additional sixty days for emergency regulations described in subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, provided the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection requests of the standing legislative regulation review committee an extension of the renewal period at the time such regulation is submitted or not less than ten days before the first sixty-day renewal period expires and said committee approves such extension. Failure of the committee to act on such request within ten days shall be deemed an approval of the extension.

- (3) If the necessary steps to adopt a permanent regulation, including the posting of notice of intent to adopt, preparation and submission of a fiscal note in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 4-170, as amended by this act, and approval by the Attorney General and the standing legislative regulation review committee, are not completed prior to the expiration date of an emergency regulation, the emergency regulation shall cease to be effective on that date.
- (g) If an agency finds (1) that technical amendments to an existing regulation are necessary because of (A) the statutory transfer of functions, powers or duties from the agency named in the existing regulation to another agency, (B) a change in the name of the agency, (C) the renumbering of the section of the general statutes containing

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251 the statutory authority for the regulation, or (D) a correction in the 252 numbering of the regulation, and no substantive changes are 253 proposed, or (2) that the repeal of a regulation is necessary because the 254 section of the general statutes under which the regulation has been 255 adopted has been repealed and has not been transferred or reenacted, 256 it may elect to comply with the requirements of subsection (a) of this 257 section or may proceed without prior notice or hearing, provided the 258 agency has posted such amendments to or repeal of a regulation on [its 259 Internet web site the eRegulations System. Any such amendments to 260 or repeal of a regulation shall be submitted in the form and manner 261 prescribed in subsection (b) of section 4-170, as amended by this act, to 262 the Attorney General, as provided in section 4-169, as amended by this 263 act, and to the standing legislative regulation review committee, as 264 provided in section 4-170, as amended by this act, for approval and 265 upon approval shall be submitted to the office of the Secretary of the 266 State for posting on the eRegulations System with, in the case of 267 renumbering of sections only, a correlated table of the former and new 268 section numbers.

- (h) No regulation adopted after October 1, 1985, is valid unless adopted in substantial compliance with this section. A proceeding to contest any regulation on the ground of noncompliance with the procedural requirements of this section shall be commenced within two years from the effective date of the regulation.
- Sec. 4. Section 4-168b of the general statutes, as amended by section 3 of public act 12-92, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed on* and after said date):
- (a) Each agency shall [maintain] <u>create</u> an official <u>electronic</u> regulation-making record <u>that shall be retained on the eRegulations</u>

  System for the period required by law for each regulation [it proposes] <u>proposed</u> in accordance with the provisions of section 4-168, <u>as amended by this act</u>. The regulation-making record and materials incorporated by reference in the record shall be available for public

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inspection and copying. [and when required under any provision of this chapter, posted on the Internet web site of the agency.]

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(b) The [agency] regulation-making record shall contain: (1) [Copies of all notices of the The agency's notice of intent to adopt regulations; [submitted to the office of the Secretary of the State; (2) a copy of] (2) any written analysis prepared for the proceeding upon which the regulation is based, including the regulatory flexibility analyses required pursuant to section 4-168a; (3) all written petitions, requests, submissions, and comments received by the agency and considered by the agency in connection with the formulation, proposal or adoption of the regulation or the proceeding upon which the regulation is based; (4) the official transcript, if any, of proceedings upon which the regulation is based or, if not transcribed, any tape recording or stenographic record of such proceedings, and any memoranda prepared by any member or employee of the agency summarizing the contents of the proceedings; (5) [a copy of] all official documents relating to the regulation, including the regulation submitted to the office of the Secretary of the State in accordance with section 4-172, as amended by this act, a statement of the principal considerations in opposition to the agency's action, and the agency's reasons for rejecting such considerations, as required pursuant to section 4-168, as amended by this act, and the fiscal note prepared pursuant to subsection (a) of section 4-168, as amended by this act, and section 4-170, as amended by this act; (6) [a copy of] any petition for the regulation filed pursuant to section 4-174; and (7) [copies of] all comments or communications between the agency and the legislative regulation review committee. No audio recording of a hearing held pursuant to section 4-168, as amended by this act, shall be posted on the eRegulations System unless the Secretary of the State confirms that such posting will not constitute a violation of any state or federal law regarding accessibility for persons with disabilities. Any audio recording of a hearing held pursuant to section 4-168, as amended by this act, that is not posted on the eRegulations System shall be maintained by the agency and made available to the public upon request.

318 (c) The agency regulation-making record need not constitute the 319 exclusive basis for agency action on that regulation or for judicial 320 review thereof.

- Sec. 5. Section 4-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date*):
- 324 No adoption, amendment or repeal of any regulation, except a 325 regulation issued pursuant to subsection (f) of section 4-168, as 326 amended by this act, shall be effective until the original of the 327 proposed regulation and any revision of a regulation to be resubmitted 328 to the standing legislative regulation review committee has been 329 submitted electronically to the Attorney General by the agency 330 proposing such regulation and approved by the Attorney General or 331 by some other person designated by the Attorney General for such 332 purpose. The review of such regulations by the Attorney General shall 333 be limited to a determination of the legal sufficiency of the proposed 334 regulation. If the Attorney General or the Attorney General's 335 designated representative fails to give notice to the agency of any legal 336 insufficiency within thirty days of the receipt of the proposed 337 regulation, the Attorney General shall be deemed to have approved 338 the proposed regulation for purposes of this section. The approval of 339 the Attorney General shall be [indicated on the original of the 340 proposed regulation which provided to the agency electronically and 341 shall be submitted electronically by the agency to the standing 342 legislative regulation review committee. As used in this section "legal 343 sufficiency" means (1) the absence of conflict with any general statute 344 or regulation, federal law or regulation or the Constitution of this state 345 or of the United States, and (2) compliance with the notice and hearing 346 requirements of section 4-168, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 6. Section 4-170 of the general statutes, as amended by sections 4 and 5 of public act 12-92, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed* on and after said date):

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(a) There shall be a standing legislative committee to review all regulations of the several state departments and agencies following the proposal thereof, which shall consist of eight members of the House of Representatives, four from each major party, to be appointed on the first Wednesday after the first Monday in January in the oddnumbered years, by the speaker of said House, and six members of the Senate, three from each major party, to be appointed on or before said dates by the president pro tempore of the Senate. The members shall serve for the balance of the term for which they were elected. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the authority making the appointment. [The members of the committee shall elect from among their members two cochairpersons, one of whom shall be a member of the Senate and one of whom shall be a member of the House of Representatives, and either of whom] There shall be two cochairpersons, one of whom shall be a member of the Senate and one of whom shall be a member of the House of Representatives, each appointed by the applicable appointing authority, provided the cochairpersons shall not be members of the same political party and shall be from alternate parties in the respective houses in each successive term. For purposes of this section, "appointing authority" means the speaker or minority leader of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore or minority leader of the Senate, as appropriate according to the respective house and party of the member to be appointed. Each chairperson may call meetings of the committee for the performance of its duties.

(b) (1) No adoption, amendment or repeal of any regulation, except a regulation issued pursuant to subsection (f) of section 4-168, <u>as amended by this act</u>, shall be effective until (A) the original <u>and an electronic copy</u> of the proposed regulation approved by the Attorney General, as provided in section 4-169, <u>as amended by this act</u>, and an <u>electronic copy of</u> the regulatory flexibility analyses as provided in section 4-168a [and an electronic copy thereof] are submitted to the standing legislative regulation review committee [at the designated office of the committee,] in a manner designated by the committee, by

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the agency proposing the regulation, (B) the regulation is approved by the committee, at a regular meeting or a special meeting called for the purpose, and (C) a certified <u>electronic</u> copy of the regulation [and an electronic copy are] is submitted to the office of the Secretary of the State by the agency, as provided in section 4-172, as amended by this act, and the regulation is posted [online] on the eRegulations System by the Secretary. (2) The date of submission for purposes of subsection (c) of this section shall be the first Tuesday of each month. Any regulation received by the committee on or before the first Tuesday of a month shall be deemed to have been submitted on the first Tuesday of that month. Any regulation submitted after the first Tuesday of a month shall be deemed to be submitted on the first Tuesday of the next succeeding month. (3) The form of proposed regulations which are submitted to the committee shall be as follows: New language added to an existing regulation shall be [in capital letters or underlining, as determined by the committee] underlined; language to be deleted shall be enclosed in brackets and a new regulation or new section of a regulation shall be preceded by the word "(NEW)" in capital letters. Each proposed regulation shall have a statement of its purpose following the final section of the regulation. (4) The committee may permit any proposed regulation, including, but not limited to, a proposed regulation which by reference incorporates in whole or in part, any other code, rule, regulation, standard or specification, to be submitted in summary form together with a statement of purpose for the proposed regulation. On and after October 1, 1994, if the committee finds that a federal statute requires, as a condition of the state exercising regulatory authority, that a Connecticut regulation at all times must be identical to a federal statute or regulation, then the committee may approve a Connecticut regulation that by reference specifically incorporates future amendments to such federal statute or regulation provided the agency that proposed the Connecticut regulation shall submit for approval amendments to such Connecticut regulations to the committee not later than thirty days after the effective date of such amendment, and provided further the committee may hold a public hearing on such Connecticut amendments. (5) The

agency shall [append] <u>attach</u> a copy of the fiscal note, prepared pursuant to subsection (a) of section 4-168, <u>as amended by this act</u>, to each copy of the proposed regulation. At the time of submission to the committee, the agency shall submit an electronic copy of the proposed regulation and the fiscal note to (A) the Office of Fiscal Analysis which, not later than seven days after receipt, shall submit an analysis of the fiscal note to the committee; and (B) each joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of the subject matter of the proposed regulation. No regulation shall be found invalid due to the failure of an agency to submit [a] <u>an electronic</u> copy of the proposed regulation and the fiscal note to each committee of cognizance, provided such regulation and fiscal note [has] <u>have</u> been <u>electronically</u> submitted to one such committee.

- (c) The committee shall review all proposed regulations and, in its discretion, may hold public hearings thereon, and may approve, disapprove or reject without prejudice, in whole or in part, any such regulation. If the committee fails to so approve, disapprove or reject without prejudice a proposed regulation, within sixty-five days after the date of submission as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the committee shall be deemed to have approved the proposed regulation for purposes of this section.
- (d) If the committee disapproves a proposed regulation in whole or in part, it shall give notice of the disapproval and the reasons for the disapproval to the agency, and no agency shall thereafter issue any regulation or directive or take other action to implement such disapproved regulation or part thereof, as the case may be, except that the agency may adopt a substantively new regulation in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, provided the General Assembly may reverse such disapproval under the provisions of section 4-171. If the committee disapproves any regulation proposed for the purpose of implementing a federally subsidized or assisted program, the General Assembly shall be required to either sustain or reverse the disapproval.

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(e) If the committee rejects a proposed regulation without prejudice, in whole or in part, it shall notify the agency of the reasons for the rejection and the agency shall resubmit the regulation in revised form, if the adoption of such regulation is required by the general statutes or any public or special act, not later than the first Tuesday of the second month following such rejection without prejudice and may so resubmit any other regulation, in the same manner as provided in this section for the initial submission with a summary of revisions identified by paragraph. The committee shall review and take action on such revised regulation no later than thirty-five days after the date of submission, as provided in subsection (b) of this section. Posting of the notice [online] on the eRegulations System pursuant to the provisions of section 4-168, as amended by this act, shall not be required in the case of such resubmission.

(f) If an agency fails to submit any regulation approved in whole or in part by the standing legislative regulation review committee to the office of the Secretary of the State as provided in section 4-172, as amended by this act, not later than fourteen days after the date of approval, the agency shall notify the committee, not later than five days after such fourteen-day period, of its reasons for failing to submit such regulation. If any agency fails to comply with the time limits established under subsection (b) of section 4-168, as amended by this act, or under subsection (e) of this section, the administrative head of such agency shall submit to the committee a written explanation of the reasons for such noncompliance. The committee, upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of its members, may grant an extension of the time limits established under subsection (b) of section 4-168, as amended by this act, and under subsection (e) of this section. If no such extension is granted, the administrative head of the agency shall personally appear before the standing legislative regulation review committee, at a time prescribed by the committee, to explain such failure to comply. After any such appearance, the committee may, upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of its members, report such noncompliance to the Governor. Within fourteen days thereafter the Governor shall report to

the committee concerning the action the Governor has taken to ensure compliance with the provisions of section 4-168, as amended by this act, and with the provisions of this section.

- Sec. 7. Section 4-172 of the general statutes, as amended by section 6 of public act 12-92, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed on* and after said date):
- 494 (a) After approval of a regulation as required by sections 4-169, as 495 amended by this act, and 4-170, as amended by this act, or after 496 reversal of a decision of the standing legislative regulation review 497 committee by the General Assembly pursuant to section 4-171, each 498 agency shall submit to the office of the Secretary of the State a certified 499 [copy and an] electronic copy of such regulation. [The] Concomitantly, 500 the agency shall electronically file with [such] the electronic copy of the 501 regulation a statement from the department head of such agency 502 certifying that [such] the electronic copy of the regulation is a true and 503 accurate copy of the regulation approved in accordance with sections 504 4-169, as amended by this act, and 4-170, as amended by this act. Each 505 regulation when so electronically submitted shall be in the form 506 [intended] prescribed by the Secretary of the State for posting [online] 507 on the eRegulations System, and each section of the regulation shall 508 include the appropriate regulation section number and a section 509 heading. The Secretary of the State shall, not later than five calendar 510 days after the electronic submission by the agency, post each such 511 regulation [online] on the eRegulations System.
  - (b) Each regulation hereafter adopted is effective upon its posting [online] on the eRegulations System by the Secretary of the State in accordance with this section, except that: (1) If a later date is required by statute or specified in the regulation, the later date is the effective date; (2) a regulation may not be effective before the effective date of the public act requiring or permitting the regulation; and (3) subject to applicable constitutional or statutory provisions, an emergency regulation becomes effective immediately upon electronic submission

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520 to the Secretary of the State, or at a stated date less than twenty days 521 thereafter, if the agency finds that this effective date is necessary 522 because of imminent peril to the public health, safety, or welfare. The 523 agency's finding and a brief statement of the reasons therefor shall be 524 submitted with the regulation. The agency shall take appropriate 525 measures to make emergency regulations known to the persons who 526 may be affected by them including, but not limited to, by posting such 527 emergency regulations on the [agency's Internet web site] <u>eRegulations</u> 528 System.

- Sec. 8. Section 4-173 of the general statutes, as amended by section 7 of public act 12-92, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):
- 532 (a) The Secretary of the State shall post online a compilation of all 533 effective regulations adopted by all state agencies subsequent to 534 October 27, 1970, in a manner that is easily accessible to and searchable 535 by the public.] The Secretary of the State may omit from [such 536 compilation] the eRegulations System (1) any regulation that is 537 incorporated by reference into a Connecticut regulation and published 538 by or otherwise available in printed or electronic form from a federal 539 agency or a government agency of another state, and (2) any regulation 540 that is incorporated by reference into a Connecticut regulation and to 541 which a third party holds the intellectual property rights, until such 542 time as the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management obtains a 543 licensing agreement in accordance with section 4-67q. [If] On and after 544 October 1, 2014, if the Secretary of the State omits a regulation from the 545 [compilation] eRegulations System, the Secretary shall [publish] post 546 in the [compilation] system a notice identifying the omitted regulation, 547 stating the general subject matter of the regulation and stating an 548 address, telephone number, web site link, if applicable, and any other 549 information needed to obtain a copy of the regulation. The Secretary of 550 the State shall also provide a web site link, if applicable, to any 551 regulation that is incorporated by reference into a Connecticut 552 regulation. Such information shall be kept current and updated not 553 less than quarterly.

[(b) All regulations posted online pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be accessible to the public and shall be the official version of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies for all purposes, including all legal and administrative proceedings. The Secretary of the State may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, specifying the format in which state agencies shall submit the final approved version of such regulations and all other documents required pursuant to this section and sections 4-167, 4-168, 4-170 and 4-172.]

- Sec. 9. Section 17b-10 of the general statutes, as amended by section 9 of public act 12-92, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date*):
- 567 (a) The Department of Social Services shall prepare and routinely 568 update state medical services and public assistance manuals. The 569 pages of such manuals shall be consecutively numbered and indexed, 570 containing all departmental policy regulations and substantive 571 procedure, written in clear and concise language. Said manuals shall 572 be published by the department [, posted on the Internet web site of 573 the department and distributed so that they are available to (1) all 574 regional and subregional offices of the Department of Social Services; 575 (2) each town hall in the state; (3) all legal assistance programs in the 576 state; and (4) any interested member of the public who requests a 577 copy and, on or before October 1, 2014, be posted on the eRegulations 578 System. Any updates of said manuals subsequent to October 1, 2014, 579 shall be posted on the eRegulations System. All policy manuals of the 580 department, as they exist on May 23, 1984, including the supporting 581 bulletins but not including statements concerning only the internal 582 management of the department and not affecting private rights or 583 procedures available to the public, shall be construed to have been 584 adopted as regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. 585 After May 23, 1984, any policy issued by the department, except a 586 policy necessary to conform to a requirement of a federal or joint 587 federal and state program administered by the department, including,

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but not limited to, the state supplement program to the Supplemental Security Income Program, shall be adopted as a regulation in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

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- (b) The department shall adopt as a regulation in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, any new policy necessary to conform to a requirement of an approved federal waiver application initiated in accordance with section 17b-8 and any new policy necessary to conform to a requirement of a federal or joint state and federal program administered by the department, including, but not limited to, the state supplement program to the Supplemental Security Income Program, but the department may operate under such policy while it is in the process of adopting the policy as a regulation, provided the [Department of Social Services] <u>department</u> posts such policy on [its Internet web site, submits such policy electronically to the Secretary of the State for posting online prior to adopting the policy and prints notice of intent to adopt the regulation in the Connecticut Law Journal not later than twenty days after adopting the policy the eRegulations System prior to adopting the policy. Such policy shall be valid until the time final regulations are effective.
- (c) On and after July 1, 2004, the department shall submit proposed regulations that are required by subsection (b) of this section to the standing legislative regulation review committee, as provided in subsection (b) of section 4-170, as amended by this act, not later than one hundred eighty days after [publication] posting of the notice of its intent to adopt regulations on the eRegulations System. The department shall include with the proposed regulation a statement identifying (1) the date on which the proposed regulation became effective as a policy as provided in subsection (b) of this section, and (2) any provisions of the proposed regulation that are no longer in effect on the date of the submittal of the proposed regulation, together with a list of all policies that the department has operated under, as provided in subsection (b) of this section, that superseded any provision of the proposed regulation.

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(d) In lieu of submitting proposed regulations by the date specified in subsection (c) of this section, the department may <u>electronically</u> submit to the legislative regulation review committee a notice not later than thirty-five days before such date that the department will not be able to submit the proposed regulations on or before such date and shall include in such notice (1) the reasons why the department will not submit the proposed regulations by such date, and (2) the date by which the department will submit the proposed regulations. The legislative regulation review committee may require the department to appear before the committee at a time prescribed by the committee to further explain such reasons and to respond to any questions by the committee about the policy. The legislative regulation review committee may request the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services to review the department's policy, the department's reasons for not submitting the proposed regulations by the date specified in subsection (c) of this section and the date by which the department will submit the proposed regulations. Said joint standing committee may review the policy, such reasons and such date, may schedule a hearing thereon and may make a recommendation to the legislative regulation review committee.

(e) If amendments to an existing regulation are necessary solely to conform the regulation to amendments to the general statutes, and if the amendments to the regulation do not entail any discretion by the department, the department may elect to comply with the requirements of subsection (a) of section 4-168, as amended by this act, or may proceed without prior notice or hearing, provided the department has posted such amendments on [its Internet web site] the eRegulations System. Any such amendments to a regulation shall be submitted in the form and manner prescribed in subsection (b) of section 4-170, as amended by this act, to the Attorney General, as provided in section 4-169, as amended by this act, and to the committee, as provided in section 4-170, as amended by this act, for approval and upon approval shall be submitted to the office of the

Secretary of the State for posting [online] on the eRegulations System in accordance with section 4-172, as amended by this act.

- Sec. 10. Section 17b-423 of the general statutes, as amended by section 10 of public act 12-92, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date*):
- (a) The Department of Social Services shall prepare and routinely 661 662 update a community services policy manual. The pages of such 663 manual shall be consecutively numbered and indexed, containing all 664 departmental policy regulations and substantive procedure. Such 665 manual shall be published by the department, posted on the Internet web site of the department and distributed so that it is available to all 666 667 district, subdistrict and field offices of the Department of Social 668 Services. The Department of Social Services shall adopt such policy 669 manual in regulation form in accordance with the provisions of 670 chapter 54.] The Department on Aging shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the 671 672 purposes, programs and services authorized pursuant to the Older 673 Americans Act of 1965, as amended from time to time. The department 674 may operate under any new policy necessary to conform to a 675 requirement of a federal or joint state and federal program [. The 676 department may operate under any new policy] while it is in the 677 process of adopting the policy in regulation form, provided the 678 [Department of Social Services] department posts such policy on [its 679 Internet web site and submits such policy electronically to the 680 Secretary of the State for posting online prior to adopting the policy 681 and prints notice of intent to adopt the regulations in the Connecticut 682 Law Journal] the eRegulations System not later than twenty days after 683 adopting the policy. Such policy shall be valid until the time final 684 regulations are effective.
- [(b) The Department of Social Services shall write the community services policy manual using plain language as described in section 42-152. The manual shall include an index for frequent referencing and a

separate section or manual which specifies procedures to follow to clarify policy.]

Sec. 11. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2013) The Department of Social Services shall make technical and structural changes to the Uniform Policy Manual to conform to the numbering system, organization, form and style of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, the department may make such changes without complying with the provisions of said chapter concerning regulation-making proceedings. The department shall submit such changes to the standing legislative regulations review committee for review in accordance with this section. Any review of such changes by said committee shall be limited to confirming that such changes are technical and structural in nature in accordance with this section. If the committee does not act in response to the department's submission not later than forty-five days after such submission, such changes shall be deemed approved. Upon approval, the department shall transmit a certified electronic copy of such changes to the Secretary of the State for the Secretary to post on the eRegulations System. At the time that the Secretary posts such changes on the eRegulations System, the corresponding sections of the Uniform Policy Manual shall be deemed superseded.

Sec. 12. Sections 4-60t and 4-173a of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective from passage*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following					
sections:					
Section 1	July 1, 2013	New section			
Sec. 2	July 1, 2013, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date	4-167			
Sec. 3	July 1, 2013, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date	4-168			

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Sec. 4	October 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date	4-168b
Sec. 5	July 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date	4-169
Sec. 6	July 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date	4-170
Sec. 7	October 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date	4-172
Sec. 8	July 1, 2013	4-173
Sec. 9	October 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date	17b-10
Sec. 10	October 1, 2014, and applicable to regulations noticed on and after said date	17b-423
Sec. 11	July 1, 2013	New section
Sec. 12	from passage	Repealer section

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

#### OFA Fiscal Note

## State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Secretary of the State	GF - Cost	Less than	100,500
		500	
State Comptroller - Fringe	GF - Cost	None	34,540
Benefits <sup>1</sup>			
Judicial Dept.	GF - Savings	None	Less than
_			\$1,000
Various State Agencies	GF - Potential	None	Less than
	Savings		\$1,000

### Municipal Impact: None

## Explanation

The bill, which establishes an on-line system to house the regulations of state agencies, is anticipated to result in a cost to the Secretary of the State (SOTS) of less than \$500 in FY 14 and \$100,500 in FY 15. The SOTS is anticipated to require a full-time position to administer and manage the system and associated programmatic requirements. The SOTS is anticipated to incur a cost of \$100,000 in FY 15 and annually thereafter arising from this additional position. Correspondingly, the Comptroller is anticipated to realize \$34,540 in FY 15 arising from fringe benefit costs. sHB 6350, the FY 14 and FY 15 budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, appropriated funding for this purpose.

In addition, the SOTS is anticipated to incur costs of less than \$500

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 34.54% of payroll in FY 14 and FY 15.

in FY 14 and FY 15 to maintain a paper copy of the regulations in accordance with the provisions of the bill.

The Judicial Department will realize a savings of less than \$1,000 in FY 15 arising from its ability to stop publishing and distributing paper copies of state regulations when the SOTS certifies that the on-line system is technologically sufficient to manage the regulations posting process.

When the system is implemented, various state agencies may realize a potential savings of less than \$1,000 in FY 15 arising from the transition to the electronic system for public posting of various notices and proposed regulations.

House "A" added a requirement that the SOTS maintain a paper copy of the regulations resulting in a cost of less than \$500 in both FY 14 and FY 15.

## Background

The State Bonding Commission allocated \$1,758,583 in its January 25, 2013, meeting to support the capital costs of implementing the program.

#### The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis sHB 6362 (as amended by House "A")\*

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE REGULATIONS OF CONNECTICUT STATE AGENCIES.

#### SUMMARY:

PA 12-92 requires that, on and after July 1, 2013, state agency regulations be available to the public on the secretary of the state's and regulating agency's Internet websites, rather than published in the *Connecticut Law Journal*. It establishes the same requirement for notices of proposed regulations and their accompanying documents.

This bill modifies several of the provisions in PA 12-92. It delays, from July 1, 2013 until a date no later than October 1, 2014, a requirement that online regulations posted by the secretary of the state be the "official version" of the regulations of state agencies for "all purposes, including all legal and administrative proceedings." It requires the Commission on Official Legal Publications (COLP) to continue publishing regulations in the *Connecticut Law Journal* until this time.

The bill names the electronic regulations compilation as the "eRegulations System" and requires (1) agencies, and not the secretary, to post to the system notices of proposed regulations and regulation-related documents and (2) the secretary to post the final regulations. It eliminates requirements for agencies to post regulations and regulation-related documents (e.g., notices of a proposed action) on their own websites.

The bill eliminates several provisions that require a regulation to be submitted in hard copy. However, it requires the secretary, by January

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1, 2014, to develop and implement a plan to maintain at her office a paper copy of all regulations posted on the eRegulations System.

The bill revises the requirements for selecting the legislative Regulation Review Committee's co-chairpersons to conform the law to practice. It also requires that several manuals published by the Department of Social Services (DSS) be posted on the eRegulations System. Lastly, it repeals requirements, due to take effect on July 1, 2013, that agencies (1) post all manuals and guidance documents online and (2) post on their websites policies that are implemented before being adopted in regulation form (§ 12, effective upon passage).

The bill also makes numerous technical and conforming changes.

\*House Amendment "A" (1) adds provisions on hyperlinking by agencies and a plan by the secretary for maintaining hard copies; (2) eliminates a provision that removed from the official regulation-making record tape recordings and stenographic records and instead requires that they be posted online only if the secretary confirms that it would not violate federal or state law; and (3) allows the Regulation Review Committee 45, rather than 60, days to review certain technical changes to DSS's Uniform Policy Manual.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Various, see below

#### §§ 1-4 & 8 — EREGULATIONS SYSTEM

## §§ 1 & 8 — Official Version of State Agency Regulations

PA 12-92 requires the secretary of the state, beginning July 1, 2013, to post online a compilation of all effective state agency regulations, including emergency regulations, adopted on and after October 27, 1970. It (1) requires that the compilation be easily accessible to, and searchable by, the public and (2) designates it as the "official version" of the regulations of state agencies for "all purposes, including all legal and administrative proceedings."

The bill delays the date on which the electronic regulations compilation (which the bill names as the "eRegulations System")

becomes the official version until the time that the secretary certifies, in writing, that the system is technologically sufficient for this purpose. Under the bill, this certification must be (1) made by the secretary by October 1, 2014 and (2) published on the secretary's website and in the *Connecticut Law Journal*.

The bill retains PA 12-92's requirement that, beginning July 1, 2013, existing regulations be posted online, but it specifies that these regulations will be unofficial until the secretary makes the above certification. However, it retains a requirement that regulations noticed on and after July 1, 2013 be posted online in order to be enforceable.

By law, certain regulations that are incorporated by reference into another regulation may be omitted from publication (1) in the *Connecticut Law Journal*, until July 1, 2013, and (2) on the eRegulations System on and after July 1, 2013. Under current law, in both instances, a notice must be published (in the journal or on the system, as appropriate) that identifies an omitted regulation, its subject matter, and information on where one can learn more about the regulation. The bill delays, from July 1, 2013 until October 1, 2014, the requirement that this notice be published on the eRegulations System, thus eliminating the publication of this notice for this 15-month period.

The bill requires COLP, within available appropriations, to provide any assistance requested by the secretary in the creation of the eRegulations System. This assistance includes providing the secretary with all effective regulations for posting online.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

#### § 1 — Publication in the Connecticut Law Journal

Under current law, COLP's publication of regulations in the *Connecticut Law Journal* ceases on July 1, 2013. The bill requires that, until the secretary certifies that the eRegulations System is ready to be the official version, (1) COLP continue publishing regulations in the journal and (2) the secretary forward an electronic copy of each

certified regulation to COLP. Additionally, the bill designates the COLP-published regulations as the official version until this time.

Under provisions in current law that are repealed effective July 1, 2013, COLP must follow several requirements when publishing regulations. For example, it must publish (1) in the *Connecticut Law Journal*, a monthly update of approved regulations and (2) a semiannual compilation of all adopted state agency regulations. A regulation or notice of a regulation's adoption must also appear in the journal in order to be enforceable.

The bill does not specify requirements for COLP's publication of regulations on and after July 1, 2013, and it eliminates COLP's ability to omit certain regulations from publication on and after this date (see above). Additionally, even though COLP must publish the official version of the regulations, they do not have to appear in the *Connecticut Law Journal* to be enforceable if they are noticed on and after July 1, 2013. Conversely, although the eRegulations System is not the official version until certified by the secretary of the state, regulations noticed on and after July 1, 2013 must be posted on the eRegulations System in order to be enforceable.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

#### § 3 — Notices of Proposed Regulations

Under PA 12-92, agencies must, beginning July 1, 2013, (1) post on their websites notices of proposed regulations and regulation-related documents and (2) submit these notices and documents to the secretary of the state for posting on the online compilation. The bill eliminates these requirements and instead requires agencies to post these notices and, on and after October 1, 2014, the regulation-related documents, on the eRegulations System. It thus delays, from July 1, 2013 until October 1, 2014, the requirement that the regulation-related documents be posted online.

By law, an agency may propose, without prior notice, (1) technical

amendments to regulations when necessary to conform to certain changes or (2) a repeal of a regulation if the authorizing statute is repealed. The bill requires the agency to post any such proposed technical amendments or repeals on the eRegulations System, rather than its own website.

By law, any agency that fails to post notice of intent to adopt required regulations by the applicable deadline must explain its reasons in an electronic statement to the governor, legislative committee of cognizance of the regulation's subject matter, and Legislative Regulation Review Committee. The bill requires that, on and after October 1, 2014, the agency also post this statement on the eRegulations System.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013 and applicable to regulations noticed on and after that date.

## § 4 — Official Regulation-Making Record

The law requires agencies to create an official regulation-making record that includes, among other things, the notice of intent to adopt regulations, written analyses upon which the regulation is based, submissions and comments received by the agency, and official documents related to the regulation.

The bill requires that agencies post this record on the eRegulations System, rather than maintain it as current law requires. It prohibits posting of audio recordings of hearings on the system unless the secretary confirms that posting them would not violate any state or federal law regarding accessibility for people with disabilities. The bill requires agencies to maintain audio recordings that are not posted on the eRegulations System and make them available to the public upon request.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014 and applicable to regulations noticed on and after that date.

## § 1 — Hyperlink on Agency Websites

The bill requires each state agency and quasi-public agency with regulatory authority to post on its website a conspicuous link to the eRegulations System and, if practicable, link to the specific regulatory provisions that concern the agency or quasi-public agency's particular programs.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

#### §§ 5-7 — REGULATION ADOPTION

By law, proposed regulations must be approved by the attorney general for legal sufficiency before being submitted to the Regulation Review Committee for approval. The bill specifies that this requirement also applies to proposed regulations that are re-submitted to the committee. It also requires that (1) proposed regulations be submitted electronically to the attorney general and (2) the attorney general's approval be provided to the agency electronically and submitted by the agency electronically to the Regulation Review Committee. Under current law, the attorney general's approval is indicated on the original of the proposed regulation, which is then submitted to the committee. The bill retains current law's requirement that the agency submit the original of the proposed regulation to the committee.

By law, once the committee approves a regulation, the agency must submit it to the secretary of the state. Effective July 1, 2013, current law requires agencies to submit one certified and one electronic copy of an approved regulation to the secretary along with a statement from the department head certifying that the electronic version is a true and accurate copy of the approved regulation. The bill instead requires that, for regulations noticed on and after October 1, 2014, (1) agencies submit only a certified electronic copy to the secretary and (2) the department head's statement be filed electronically.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014 and applicable to regulations noticed on and after that date, except that the provision on filing with the secretary is effective October 1, 2014 and applicable to regulations

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noticed on and after that date.

## § 6 — Regulation Review Committee Co-Chairpersons

The bill conforms the law to current practice by revising the procedures for selecting the co-chairpersons of the legislature's Regulation Review Committee. It requires that (1) the committee's co-chairpersons be from different political parties, (2) the House chair and Senate chair alternate between political parties in successive terms, and (3) the co-chairpersons be appointed by either the Senate president pro tempore or minority leader or the House speaker or minority leader, as appropriate. Current law requires the committee to elect its co-chairpersons, one from the House and one from the Senate.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

#### §§ 9-11 — DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## §§ 9 & 10 — eRegulations Posting Requirements

The bill eliminates, effective October 1, 2014, requirements that DSS (1) distribute its medical services and public assistance manuals to its regional and subregional offices, town halls, and legal assistance programs and (2) post the manuals and any updates to them on its website (which it must do beginning July 1, 2013). It instead requires DSS to post these manuals and updates on the eRegulations System.

By law, DSS must adopt as regulations policies necessary to conform to certain federal or joint federal and state program requirements. The law allows the department to operate under such policies while in the process of adopting them in regulation form. Under current law, DSS must publish a notice of intent to adopt the regulations in the *Connecticut Law Journal* and, effective July 1, 2013, post the policies on its website and electronically submit them to the secretary of the state for online posting. The bill, effective October 1, 2014, eliminates these requirements and instead requires DSS, like other agencies, to post them on the eRegulations System. However, for other agencies, this change is effective July 1, 2013.

By law, DSS, instead of submitting these proposed regulations to the Regulation Review Committee, may submit a notice to the committee (1) explaining why it will not meet the submission deadline, and (2) stating when it will submit them. The bill requires this notice to be electronic.

The bill also eliminates DSS's community services policy manual and instead requires the newly-formed Department of Aging to adopt (and post to the eRegulations System) regulations to carry out the purposes of the federal Older Americans Act of 1965. This provision conforms to the transfer of DSS's Aging Services Division to the Department of Aging, as both the manual and the act address services for older adults. The bill extends to the Department of Aging (1) DSS's authority to operate under a policy before adopting it in regulation and (2) the requirements DSS must follow when doing this (see above).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014 and applicable to regulations noticed on and after that date.

## § 11 — DSS Uniform Policy Manual

The bill requires DSS to make technical and structural changes to its Uniform Policy Manual so that it conforms to the numbering, organization, form, and style of state agency regulations. The bill allows DSS to make these changes without following the law's requirements concerning regulation-making proceedings.

DSS must submit the changes to the Regulation Review Committee for review. The bill (1) limits the committee's review to confirming that the changes are technical and structural and (2) deems the changes approved if the committee does not act within 45 days of the submission.

Upon the committee's approval, DSS must transfer a certified electronic copy of the changes to the secretary of the state for posting on the eRegulations System. The bill deems the corresponding sections of the Uniform Policy Manual as superseded once she does this.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 11 Nay 3 (03/15/2013)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 47 Nay 1 (04/30/2013)